

Serial No. 09/728,257

Reply to Final Office Action of January 17, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 5-11, 13, 14, 16 and 18-21 were presented for examination and are pending in this application. In a Final Official Office Action dated January 17, 2006, claims 1-3, 5-11, 13, 14, 16 and 18-21 were rejected. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his consideration and examination of the claims and addresses the Examiner's comments concerning the claims pending in this application below.

Applicant herein amends claims 1, 8, 10, 16 and 19 and no new claims are presently added. Support for these amendments can generally be found on page 11 of the specification beginning at line 16. These changes are believed not to introduce new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. In making this amendment, Applicant has not and does not narrow the scope of the protection to which the Applicant considers the claimed invention to be entitled and does not concede that the subject matter of such claims was in fact disclosed or taught by the cited prior art. Rather, Applicant reserves the right to pursue such protection at a later point in time and merely seeks to pursue protection for the subject matter presented in this submission.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections and withdraw them.

I. 35 U.S.C. §102 Anticipation Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 10-11, 13-14, 16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,805,803 ("Birrell"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections in light of the aforementioned amendment and the following remarks.

The claims, as currently amended, recite features lacking in the applied

Serial No. 09/728,257

Reply to Final Office Action of January 17, 2006

references. For example, independent claims 1, 10 and 16 recite in varying language, among other things, "examining the response for error messages, and responsive to an error message being associated with the response, translating the error message and determining whether the error message is resolvable, and responsive to the error being resolvable, operating the tunnel mechanism to take corrective actions to remove the error message from the response prior to transmitting the response to the external client." Birrell fails to disclose such a limitation.

As each and every element as set forth in claims 1, 10 and 16, are not expressly or inherently described by Birrell nor is the Applicant's invention as recited in claims 1, 10 and 16 shown in complete detail by Birrell, Birrell does not anticipate independent claims 1, 10 and 16. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. Claims 2-3, 5-6, 11, 13-14 and 18 depend from claims 1, 10 and 16 and are, for at least the same reasons, not anticipated by Birrell. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the aforementioned claims.

II. 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Obviousness Rejection of Claims

Claims 7 and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Birrell in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,913,922 (Dennis). Claim 8 was rejected as being unpatentable over Birrell in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,092,100 (Berstis). Claim 9 was rejected as being unpatentable over Birrell in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,351,817 (Flyntz). Claims 1-3, 5, 16 and 18 were rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,457,061 (Bal) and in further view of Lincoln D. Stein, "Web Security: A Step-by-Step Reference Guide," 1998 (Stein) and in further view of Flyntz. Claims 7 and 19-21 were rejected as being unpatentable over Bal in view of Stein and Flyntz and in further view of Dennis. Claim 8 was rejected as being unpatentable over Bal in view of Stein and in further view of Berstis. Finally, claim 9 was rejected as being

Serial No. 09/728,257

Reply to Final Office Action of January 17, 2006

unpatentable over Bal in view of Stein and in further view of Flyntz. In light of the following remarks, the Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections and respectfully requests reconsideration.

Independent claims 1, 10, 16 and 19 have been amended to claim, in varying language, examining a response to a client request for error messages, and responsive to an error message being associated with the response, translating the error message and determining whether the error message is resolvable. If the error is resolvable, invoking through the tunnel mechanism measures to take corrective actions to address the error message prior to transmitting the response to the external client.

The Applicant asserts that these limitations are not taught or suggested by any combination of Birrell, Berstis, Flyntz, Bal, or Stein. Of these disclosed references, Berstis appears to be the most similar in that it discusses errors in URLs. Berstis however only appears to teach or suggest a method for resolving misspelled or mistyped URL addresses. Berstis recites that its method can, "resolve an incorrect character string into an electronic address known to the computer network." Berstis Col. 8, line 64-66. Berstis "recognizes user-specified server names that are misspelled and provides a mechanism to connect the client to the server irrespective of that error." Berstis Col. 9, lines 5-8.

The Applicant's invention goes beyond a simple character comparison that may prevent communication with a client. In the present, and as claimed by the Applicant, when an error message originates from a target computer as the results of a request from an external device the invention moves to resolve the error. In Berstis, communication between an external requesting device and the desired target computer never takes place. The URL error referred to in Berstis is discovered not by the target device but by an ancillary server or browser to suggest alternative URL's. The desired target is not returning an error message nor, as in the Applicant's invention, is the error message that is returned from the

Serial No. 09/728,257

Reply to Final Office Action of January 17, 2006

target translated and resolved prior to a response being sent to the requesting external device. Additionally, Berstis does not even consider, as is present in the claimed invention, communicating the translated error message to the external client when the error is not resolved. That would be impossible in Berstis since until the correct URL is determined the target is never contacted.

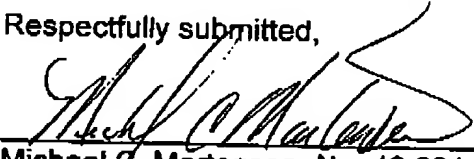
This and other aspects of the present invention are not disclosed in the prior art and thus the Applicant submits the claims as currently presented are in condition for allowance.

In view of all of the above, the claims are now believed to be allowable and the case in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

No fee is believed due for this submittal. However, any fee deficiency associated with this submittal may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

13 March, 2006


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